

REMARKS

The Examiner has alleged that the following groups of claims each constitute a separately patentable invention:

Group I:	Claims 1 and 2;
Group II:	Claims 1, 3, 4, and 5;
Group III:	Claims 1 and 6;
Group IV:	Claims 1 and 7-9;
Group V:	Claims 1 and 10-12;
Group VI:	Claims 1 and 13-15;
Group VII:	Claims 1 and 16-18;
Group VIII:	Claims 1 and 33;
Group VIII:	Claims 19-23;
Group X:	Claims 19 and 24-25;
Group XI:	Claims 19 and 26; and
Group XII:	Claims 19 and 27-30

In response, Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group VIII with traverse in the present application. However, Applicants assert that at least Groups VIII, X, and XI are not sufficiently independent and distinct so as to require restriction in the present case. Groups VIII, X, and XI all relate to a method of treating a viral infection comprising administering to a subject an effective amount of a primary herbal composition which comprises an extract from the leaves or seeds of *Sesbania aegyptiaca* and at least one additional herbal extract. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that these claims be rejoined.

Applicants invite the Examiner's attention to claims 31 and 32 and respectfully observe that these claims do not appear in the foregoing list. For the purposes of clarity, Applicants respectfully request formal notice regarding whether the Examiner considers claims 31 and 32 to be part of elected Group VIII or one of the non-elected groups.

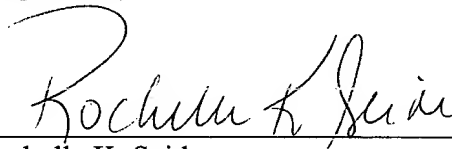
Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the non-elected claims in further applications and to traverse the instant grouping of claims on any grounds.

Applicants have enclosed herewith the fee required pursuant to 37 C.F.R.

§1.17(a)(5). Applicants do not believe any additional fee is due with this submission.

Nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any additional fees required with this submission not otherwise enclosed herewith from Deposit Account No. 02-4377. Two copies of this paper are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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May 5, 2003



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